

Other Criteria: Will vary. For example, in bald eagle management areas, ponderosa pine or Douglas-fir with large side branches suitable for perching will be favored for retention.

MONITORING PLAN

The resource area's Interdisciplinary Team has developed a draft resource area-wide monitoring plan. The plan identifies the types of monitoring (such as techniques and intervals) that are required or needed to evaluate implementation and effectiveness of the Northwest Forest Plan and the Klamath Falls RMP. Plan modification may be needed over time to reflect adoption of updated methodologies, plan amendments, and other factors. The results of monitoring conducted to date are summarized in the Plan Implementation Summary section. Monitoring results will also be used in the third-year plan evaluation process described below. More information about the monitoring plan can be obtained by contacting David Lebo at 541-885-4142.

THIRD-YEAR PLAN EVALUATION

The BLM is required (under 43 CFR, Part 1610.4-9) to monitor and evaluate existing land use plans at appropriate intervals and standards as established by the District Manager. The appropriate interval for the Klamath Falls Resource Area and Upper Klamath Basin/Wood River Resource Management Plans was set at three years. The evaluation process is intended to identify potential issues or new information that may require a plan amendment or revision. This evaluation is scheduled to occur in FY99 to evaluate implementation during fiscal years 1996 through 1998.

PLAN AMENDMENT

The Klamath Falls Resource Area has identified two issues requiring amendment of its Resource Management Plan. One issue is to identify approximately 1.5 acres of public land, legally described as T. 40 S., R. 6 E. Section 1 S ¹/₂, as suitable for direct sale pursuant to Section 203 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976. The second is to include the following language in the Land Tenure Adjustments section of the plan: "Where survey hiatuses and unintentional encroachments on public land are discovered in the future which meet the disposal criteria, the lands may automatically be assigned Zone 3 for disposal." Public lands in Zone 3 may be disposed by sale or exchange. The existing plan does not identify these lands for disposal, nor does it allow BLM the option to resolve survey hiatuses and unintentional encroachments by selling public lands that meet disposal criteria.

A Notice of Intent was published in the December 20, 1996, Federal Register announcing the beginning of the planning process and a 30-day scoping period for this plan amendment. An environmental assessment will be prepared by an interdisciplinary team to identify a reasonable range of alternatives and to analyze impacts of the proposal. The plan amendment/EA is expected to be available for review in the fall of 1997. For further information, contact Tom Cottingham at 541-883-6916.